

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

identifying a plurality of attributes for each of a plurality of users with data processing devices;

selecting a group of users having one or more common attributes;

receiving an inquiry generated by a first user over a network, said inquiry having predetermined responses associated therewith;

transmitting said inquiry to said group of users over said network;

receiving responses from one or more users in said group of users over said network; and

forwarding said responses to said first user over said network.

2. (Original) The method as in claim 1 wherein one of said attributes is a current geographical location of each of said users.

3. (Original) The method as in claim 1 wherein one of said attributes is a relative distance of each of said users from said first user.

4. (Original) The method as in claim 1 wherein one of said attributes is an age of each of said users.

5. (Original) The method as in claim 1 wherein one of said attributes is an occupation of each of said users.
6. (Original) The method as in claim 1 wherein one of said attributes is a sex of each of said users.
7. (Original) The method as in claim 1 wherein one of said attributes is a home address of each of said users.
8. (Original) The method as in claim 1 wherein said one of said attributes is that each user appears in said first user's buddy list.
9. (Original) The method as in claim 1 wherein one of said attributes is that each user appears in said first user's address book.
10. (Original) A graphical user interface ("GUI") for generating an inquiry to be sent to a specified plurality of users comprising:
  - an inquiry region in which an inquiry may be typed;
  - an answer region in which a plurality of predetermined responses may be entered; and
  - a user selection region for selecting said plurality of users from a user list.

11. (Original) The GUI as in claim 10 wherein said list in said user selection region is generated based on one or more user characteristics specified by a first user.
12. (Original) The GUI as in claim 11 wherein said one or more characteristics includes a geographical location of each of said users.
13. (Original) The GUI as in claim 10 wherein said list in said user selection region comprises a buddy list of a user generating said inquiry.
14. (Original) The GUI as in claim 10 wherein said inquiry region is adjacent to said answer region.
15. (Original) The GUI as in claim 14 and said user selection region is adjacent to said answer region and said user selection region.